

## July 21, 2009 through July 22, 2009 Summer KEEC Council Meeting Minutes

Location: Shaker Village in Harrodsburg, Kentucky

- ◆ Members Present: Horace Brown, Cheryl Messenger, Alan Branscum, Tom Fitzgerald, Evelyn Morgan, Marcus Norton, Greg Higdon, James Funk
- ◆ Members not present: Robert Roguemore
- ◆ Staff Present: Jane Eller, Michelle Nevels, Merin Roseman
- ◆ Guest Present: Liz Edmondson

Horace Brown, Chairman, opened the meeting. Mr. Brown welcomed all attendees and asked for approval of the minutes. A motion to approve the February and May minutes was made by Tom Fitzgerald and seconded by Greg Higdon.

Mr. Brown asked Ms. Eller to proceed through the agenda. Ms. Eller said she wished to review the budget and then highlight some the major projects but not go into depth on all agency activities so more time could be spent on the Master Plan.

### Budget Overview

Ms. Eller addressed the current state of the budget. Each line item of the budget was discussed in detail. It is forecasted that the interest on the Pride Fund will be substantially lower this year than the year before. Ms. Eller notified the board that our agency is planning for the decrease and, due to the shortfall, will not be able to distribute funds to the universities this year.

Ms. Eller also explained that, though not shown in this last quarter's budget, we also have bills outstanding for a survey conducted by the University of Kentucky Survey Research Center and for the University of Kentucky to receive their FY 2009 KUPPEE grant once administrative issues are resolved.

Transportation will not renew the MS4 Storm water Education Program this year. At the end of the federal fiscal year, Yvonne Meichtry and Julie Gee will no longer be employed by KEEC and KYTC as of August 31, 2009.

Council asked why KEEC has such a large carry forward balance. Ms. Eller explained there were several issues contributing to this including the fact that the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky had been unable to spend large amounts of their grants for 2008 and so, by the terms of the MOA, had returned unspent money. Some of this is also Transportation Cabinet funds to pay outstanding bills for that project. Ms. Eller said she would check on the remainder.

## **Green and Healthy Schools**

Ms. Eller explained that new employee Merin Roseman is continuing to recruit Green & Healthy Schools throughout the state. She will attend the Brightside Youth Summit, KSTA, KAEE, and various activities with the Tracey Farmer Institute. Merin also created a Face Book for Green & Healthy Schools. Ms. Roseman will also participate in Energy Management workshops with KEEPS.

## **EEinKentucky website**

This website, which allows EE providers across the state to "advertise" services and events, had a record number of hits in the past month. Ms. Roseman administers that site as well as the Green and Healthy Schools program. There was a discussion of the Questing program which agency staff are organizing. This program will encourage families to get outside with their children and will be based on the EEinKentucky website.

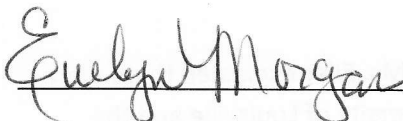
## **Federal Stimulus Funds and the State Education Standards**

KEEC has received \$214,000 in federal stimulus funds. Most of this will be spent on the Green Schools program but some would pay a curriculum specialist to sit at the table when the new standards are being developed for Kentucky. If this is approved by KDE, we may be able to ensure that all children in public schools will have had at least some environmental education classes by the time they graduate from high school. With this effort and the possible funding from the No Child Left Inside bill, staff are hopeful there will be more emphasis on environmental education in K-12 public schools.

## **Master Plan Revisions (Day 2 of Meeting)**

The second day of the meeting was primarily reserved for Master Plan revision review. Based upon the recommendations made by participants in our advisory group for the new Master Plan, KEEC presented those recommendations to the board members for approval. After several hours of discussion, the board gave its direction and approval for the Master Plan document to be edited and printed in the fall of 2009. Notes for additional revisions were taken by Michelle Nevels and Merin Roseman during the meeting. The final versions is attached.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting.

  
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*Co-Chair*

W Horace Brown, Chair

10/28/2009

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Jane W Eller, Executive Director KEEC